

FREDERICKTOWN, MISSOURI, APRIL 26, 1928.

ST. JOE LEAD CO. SAID TO BE BUYING MINE LA MOTTE

Reports are current locally that the St. Joseph Lead Co. is buying outright the entire Mine La Motte Domain from the Sweetwater Mining Co. Mr. Rozier, attorney for the lead company, was here last week and made arrangements for a complete abstract of the domain.

The Sweetwater Mining Co. has its headquarters in Philadelphia and consists of bondholders of the old defunct Missouri Metals Corporation who organized in an effort to save something out of the wreck.

It is understood that by the terms of the contract under which the St. Joe company started mining, it had the right at any time to buy the entire domain at a stipulated price.

The wild land in the county and the farm land west of Fredericktown are not affected by the proposed deal.

R. L. WARD WILL DELIVER H. S. COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Supt. A. B. Barber announced yesterday that R. L. Ward of Caruthersville had been secured to deliver the annual commencement address at the high school this year. The date is May 17.

Patrons of the school and friends and admirers of Mr. Ward are delighted at the news. Unquestionably Ward is one of the greatest lawyers and most eloquent speakers in the state. He always has something interesting to say and a most interesting way of saying it.

The baccalaureate preacher has not yet been selected.

Alma Lanpher Bride Of George Banes

Miss Alma Lanpher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Lanpher, became the bride Sunday afternoon of George Banes, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Banes.

The ceremony was said at the home of the bride by Rev. Hamrick of the Baptist church, in the presence of the members of the two families.

Mr. Banes has a position at Iron-ton where he already had a home prepared and the young people will make that town their home.

Both the young people are very highly regarded here and a large circle of friends wish for them a long and happy life.

Rotary Club Elects Officers

SEASONS DO NOT CHANGE SAYS WEATHER MAN

Records Indicate That Seasons Have Not Materially Changed Within Past Thousand Years, Despite Unusual Conditions.

The cold, disagreeable weather of the past week or two, coupled with the serious damage of fruit and other crops by the late freezes, has served to revive the notion locally that springtime weather is changing.

Director George Reeder of the United States Weather Bureau at Columbia has taken note of the rather wide-spread notion that the seasons are changing, and has prepared the following statement on the subject, which should convince us here in Madison county:

If the weather should continue for a long time in a normal state (which it never does), we would cease to take notice or endeavor to unravel its mysteries. It is the abnormal, or exceptional cases, that make nature interesting. For instance, spring weather in Missouri usually is favorable for outdoor activities. Sometimes, though, our springs, as in all other parts of the country, are wet, cold and backward. Occasionally such unfavorable springs will run in series, such as we have experienced the last several years. Then we hear that stereotyped remark: "Our climate is changing. Never in all my life have I seen such cold, wet, backward springs."

But we have. Our ancestors, back to the third and fourth generations, said the same thing. George Washington, in his carefully kept "weather notes, 1748-1799," remarked that the snows of Virginia did not at the time seem so frequent nor so heavy as the snows of his boyhood, and he thought that the climate was changing.

The truth of the matter is the springs of the present age differ in no material manner from the springs experienced by our fathers, grandfathers and great grandfathers. There have been no radical differences in the last 1000 years.

The present spring has been dry and very favorable for field work up to the general rain beginning April 5, followed by the cold snap running over the ninth. March was one of the driest and brightest of its name on record, forcing vegetation some 10 days or more ahead of the usual.

A normally cold and wet March is always much better for the farmers

LETT BRONZE TABLET TO BE DEDICATED MAY 6TH

C. D. Matthews To Be Principal Speaker At Memorial Exercises And Dedication Of Bronze Tablet At Marquand Bridge.

Citizens of Marquand have set May 6th as the date for the dedication of the fine bronze tablet and the memorial exercises in honor of the late E. S. Lett, according to an announcement made this week by L. D. Whitener, one of the committee in charge of the event.

The exercises will begin at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and a very fine program is being arranged. Hon. C. D. Matthews of Sikeston, Chairman of the State Highway Commission, will be present and deliver the principal address of the occasion. The other numbers of the program will be interesting and appropriate and the full program will appear in this paper next week.

As is generally known, E. S. Lett, for many years a prominent business man of Marquand, advanced to the State Highway Commission the large funds necessary to build the bridge across Castor River at Marquand. The bridge has been a tremendously valuable asset to Marquand, and the public-spirited attitude of Mr. Lett has been recognized by the people of that community.

Mr. Lett died before the full benefits of the bridge could be realized, but almost immediately the Marquand people decided that something should be done as a testimonial to the public's appreciation of the man. The outgrowth of the movement was the casting of a fine bronze tablet which will be attached to the bridge, and the dedication of that tablet is the occasion of the event on Sunday, May 6.

The Marquand committee has extended a cordial invitation to all the people of this section to come and assist in this very pretty and very appropriate affair.

County Superintendent Cozean is attending the spring term at the Teachers College at Cape Girardeau. He expects to receive his degree at the end of the summer term.

With the increased use of the automobile, the gathering of local news becomes increasingly difficult, particularly when so many other things must receive the attention of those connected with a newspaper. We

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Superfund 04/26/28

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
of the
BUREAU OF MINES
DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTION
of the
STATE OF MISSOURI



YEAR ENDING DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST

1928

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

Iron Mining is experiencing a revival of activity and the 1928 production showed an increase over the previous year.

Accidents

The number of fatal accidents for the year 1928 was slightly in excess of the previous year, totaling 21, of which 8 occurred in the lead and zinc mines, 11 in the coal mines, 1 in the clay mines and 1 in the shale mines. While an increase in all accidents is always deplorable, the percentage of fatalities occurring in the Missouri Mines is on a par with the larger mining states, and considerably below the percentages shown by many other states. All fatal accidents were single accidents occurring in the general course of operation; some being chargeable to carelessness while others were reported unavoidable.

The Inspection Department contends that, while mining is classed as an hazardous occupation, the great majority of fatal accidents occurring are traceable to neglect or carelessness of the deceased or of those in charge of operation, and that the splendid work of the Safety Engineers and all the efforts put forth by the Mine Inspection Department cannot correct this condition, although much progress has been made in that direction.

In conclusion the Inspection Department of the Bureau of Mines desires to express its appreciation for the co-operation extended by all concerned. It is our belief that much headway has been made in the way of removing dangerous conditions in and around the mines, and with the continued good will and co-operation of the mine operators, safety engineers and miners, we feel that much good may be accomplished in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK G. FENIX,

Chief Inspector.

Lead and Zinc Mines

THE metal market of the world, while maintaining a fairly even price level throughout the year of 1928, did not recover from the slump in metal prices sufficiently to cause a reopening of mines and a general increase in activity, consequently production of both lead and zinc in Missouri mines dropped considerably below that of 1927.

The Southeastern District

The great Southeastern Lead district in St. Francois, Iron and Madison Counties dropped 30,000 tons below the production of the previous year, although there was a steady production throughout the year, the mines operating an average of three hundred and nine days, there was a decrease of four hundred and ninety-four in number of men employed. Part of the loss in production was due to the shut-down of Mine LaMotte in Madison county, where general overhauling was taking place, and the building of a large mill was in progress.

A great deal of improvement work was carried on during the year. Additions to mills and power houses were made and the flotation plants have been enlarged and improved. Several large settling tanks and drying plants were installed to take care of the fine lead which heretofore went into the slime. A zinc separator was added by the St. Joseph Lead Company to their Leadwood and Rivermines plants. Zinc furnaces were also added to the smelting plant at Herculaneum, Mo.

Prospect drilling was carried on very extensively during 1928 in Madison, St. Francois and Iron Counties and several new companies entered this field. The Eagle Picher Lead Company which has been operating a refining plant in Washington County for the Barytes produced in that section, carried on prospecting work in this district during the greater part of the year.

The Missouri Lead Company, a new company with offices at Farmington, did most of its prospecting near Libertyville in St. Francois County.

More than usual attention was paid to Madison County during the past year. The St. Louis Smelting and Refining Company

has been purchasing the property and acreage

known as the Schulte Mine. A new shaft was put down to a level of 241 feet and the discovery of a very promising ore body was reported, drifts having been cut in two directions. At present the ore is being dumped on the surface, but it is the intention of the company to ship the ore to their large concentrating mill at St. Francois as soon as the railroad, which is being surveyed, is placed in operation.

Another new company entering Madison County is the Conqueror Mining Company, which took over the property known as the old Catherine Mine. They erected a 500-ton mill of the Joplin type and started to remill the old chat pile left by the Federal Lead Company several years ago. Other improvements and extensions are to follow.

The holdings of the old Sweetwater Mining Company in Madison County were purchased by the St. Joseph Lead Company, a new shaft put down to a level of 250 feet and a good ore body established. Old Shaft No. 14 was reclaimed and production will commence as soon as the large concentrating mill under construction is completed.

The properties of the St. Joseph Lead Company were kept in operation three hundred and nine days during 1928 and produced approximately 7,000 tons of lead above the 1927 production. They employ 1,890 men, 860 of whom work underground and the balance of 1,030 are employed on top and as mill men. The above number does not include 87 employes who take care of the central power station, nor does it account for 26 men to look after roof, who are contract drillers. The central power plant has nine boilers and five turbines and supplies the electric current for all the mines of the company.

The St. Louis Smelting and Refining Company, a subsidiary of the National Lead Company, whose mines are located in St. Francois County, and employ 714 men, operated its mines 310 days during 1928 and its production was just slightly under that of the previous year. No improvements were reported.

Mine LaMotte in Madison County, reported to be the oldest lead mine in America, and producing 10,000 tons of lead during the previous year, was not in the list of production for 1928. Nevertheless, the mine is not to be abandoned, but a new concentrating mill of large capacity has been built and operations for the coming year are expected to be on a large scale. The Mine LaMotte corporation has a capital of \$1,000,000.

Corporation controls surface rights in 5,000 acres and mineral rights in 24,000 acres, all located in Madison and St. Francois Counties.

The Doe Run Lead Company of Rivermines in St. Francois County operated with a decreased force, nearly two hundred men less than during 1927, and while being in operation only one day less than the previous year reduced its production from 73,711 tons of lead in 1927 to 45,230 tons in 1928.

The Desloge Consolidated Lead Company of Desloge in St. Francois County, operated on an average 309 days during the year, increasing their production approximately 4,000 tons. They finished work on their 2000-ton concentrating plant, completed the electrification of Shaft No. 6, and differential gin plant.

There were four fatal accidents, occurring in the mines of the Southeastern District during 1928, two more than during the previous year. Three of these accidents were not chargeable to any defect in the mines or neglect, but were the result of carelessness or thoughtlessness on the part of the workman, while one of these was unavoidable. Non-fatal accidents were reduced to a minimum.

The Southeastern District is in charge of Deputy Inspector Tolbert Henson of Perryville.

The Joplin District

On account of the production of the Oklahoma field, being in excess of the demand, there was very little production in the Joplin District other than in the mines having highly disseminated ore faces, where a high recovery is made.

While a number of large companies carried on development work throughout the year 1928, and according to reports, several new ore bodies were established, there is little chance of having very much production in the Joplin field until production in the Oklahoma and Kansas fields drops below the demand, or until the demand for Zinc ore increases and general market conditions improve.

Production by small companies has been almost eliminated because the large mines which were not in operation were filled with water and the small operating companies cannot afford to drain the ground.

The Admiralty Zinc Company, operating the Missouri Mine